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**Strike out**
Support staff from Haliburton School of Art and Design, as well as representatives from the Lindsay campus of Fleming College and Fleming Crew stand their ground on Sept. 12 in an effort to fight for fair wages and job security. For the full story, see inside this edition. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

# Fireboxes, community response aid in saving property from fire

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Fast-acting community members are being credited with saving properties from disaster after a fire broke out on Koshlong Lake late last month.

A wood-burning stove caught fire inside a sauna on a property on Barrister Bay in the early evening hours of Aug. 27.

Property owner Barb Allan wasn't at the cottage at the time of the fire but explained that her daughter, son-in-law and their children were there when they saw the flames coming from the sauna. Within seconds, the family and the community sprang into action.

"Our next-door neighbour is a fire captain and he and his wife sort of took care of my daughter's kids when she rushed them over there," Allan said in a Sept. 9

**see COMMUNITY page 12**


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# Next steps for strategic plan laid out

EMILY STONEHOUSE

*Editor*

The staff at County of Haliburton have dedicated themselves to providing a level of transparency and accountability to residents of the community, and this became present during a Sept. 10 regular meeting of the upper-tiered organization. "Under the guidance of council, county staff are developing a new strategic plan to guide priorities, decision-making, and service delivery in the upcoming years," opened Elizabeth Purcell, the director of planning for the county. "As an upper-tier municipality, Haliburton County plays a key role in coordinating services, supporting local municipalities, and addressing inter-jurisdictional issues."

With four lower-tier municipalities working alongside the county, there has been backlash in the past for overlapping areas of responsibility. The framework of the plan is to align resources and efficiencies to be more responsive to the needs of the community.

The strategic plan project has been broken into three stages: project initiation, research and consultation, and plan development. Stage one is currently completed, having been started in mid-2024.

Staff is now easing their way into phase two - research and consultation - with reviewing documents for an environmental scan. Purcell dove into the background of an environmental scan, which focuses on a measurement system of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges analysis.

"Alongside analyzing existing data and performing environmental scans of documents of plans and policies already in existence, our working group team began developing our consultation strategy," said Sue Tiffin, director of community outreach for the county. "Our goal was to gather diverse perspectives to form the county's strategic priorities, ensuring the plan reflects community needs, values, and future aspirations."

Tiffin noted that they were seeking feedback from both the county, as well as the four lower-tiered municipalities, to receive internal insights from operations, as well as detailed input from community groups.

She shared that the interview questions were developed with "great consideration" from a working group, in an effort to receive detailed responses from participants. "We were deeply satisfied with the quality of input we received," said Tiffin, noting that the responses will be presented in the coming weeks.

When this information is presented to council, staff will be seeking feedback to move forward with the project. "(Then) we will be in a great position to move forward with the project," said Purcell, noting that a final plan should be available in March, with implementation to follow pending council approval.

Councillor Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, posed a question to staff following their update. "The world has changed," he said. "The world has changed pretty dramatically. I'm particularly concerned with, for instance, last year we had a major increase in our OPP costs, which the provincial government at the last moment threw us some money to reduce what that charge is. We have no idea what is going to happen next year. … but we are going to be hit with significantly higher charges than we had in the past… are we going to be able to afford what we have, five years from now?

> ***"Our goal was to gather diverse perspectives to form the county's strategic priorities ..."***
>
> – Sue Tiffin, director of community outreach, Haliburton County

"I'm sure there are a lot of municipalities across Ontario that just aren't going to be financially viable five years from now."

"Your points are well taken," said county CAO Gary Dyke. "I think that's one of the great outcomes of this study and program being put in place now because it allows us to take the wishes of the communities for growth in different areas and things they want, but allows us to go in and both quantify and qualify them."

Dyke noted that this plan won't be ready for this year, but they are taking it in its unfinished form and using it for projections for the upcoming budgeting season. "That's the base-level foundation of this plan going forward."

Councillor Liz Danielsen, the Mayor of Algonquin Highlands, inquired about how much time was dedicated to speaking with councillors during the surveying process. "I can see that there might be some benefit with that," she said, "because the thinking is different between councils, sometimes, and staff, as what the priorities need to be … that might be a little bit of a missing gap."

Dyke shared that due to the fact that it's a county-run plan, staff had been given direction to receiving "the local voice" from sitting members of county council, not the lower-tiered representatives. "If you're not seeing that would be applicable, then we can actually wind down a little further into it at that stage … but we are getting the local flavour from staff members and county council."

The report was received as information, with the promise of further updates brought to the council table as they develop.

# New medical professionals come to Haliburton county

EMILY STONEHOUSE

*Editor*

A report from a closed-session county council meeting held in August was made public during the county's most recent regular meeting, updating the public on the developments of new physicians in the area.

Physician recruitment coordinator Wendy Welch came to county council on Sept. 10, sharing some good news. "I am very happy to bring before you today a report regarding medical service agreements for Dr. Mario Lupu, Dr. Carly Eisbrenner, and nurse practitioner Cicily Cooper.

Dr. Lupu has signed a return of service agreement for a period of four years, and will be assuming the practice of Dr. Norm Bottum; 1287 patients. In the report to council, Welch noted that although Dr. Lupu will not be rostering new patients, without him these individuals tied to Dr. Bottum would be left without a family physician. He will be starting with the practice as of this week, with Dr. Bottum set to retire at the end of the month.

The report goes on to explain that Dr. Eisbrenner has signed a six-year return of service agreement, and her practice structure will be a combination of rostering 700 new patients in the clinic, as well as caring for acute in-patients and taking emergency department shifts. "More like full-scope, rural medicine," said Welch.

Nurse practitioner Cecily Cooper's primary responsibilities are to provide care to unattached, poorly attached, or equity deserving population attached patients. The goal will be to enrol them, so they have a permanent healthcare provider. The family health team intends to allow Cooper to assume care of 480 to 640 residents, pending patient complexity.

> ***"This is all great news, but, there is still plenty of work to be done yet ..."***
>
> — Wendy Welch, physician recruiter

"This is all great news," said Welch. "But, there is still plenty of work to be done yet because the clinic is still needing at least four more full-time physicians, so we're still working away at things."

Welch noted that the recruitment process for both doctors has taken a full year to complete. "This is kind of the norm," she said. "It takes a long time. It does take a lot of patience."

# MH council shoots down cell tower reconsideration

THOMAS SMITH

*Journalist*

On Thursday, Sept. 11, Councillor Tammy McKelvey moved a motion for council to reconsider the failed vote of concurrence regarding Rogers Tower C8590. This would bring the vote for non-currence back to council on Sept. 25. The tower was set to be built along Bobcaygeon Road in Minden.

When the vote originally happened on July 31, Mayor Bob Carter made it clear that there would not be a replacement tower for C8590. During the meeting members of council brought up concerns with the public consultation process, gaps in cellular service, environmental impact, Not-In-My-Backyard Syndrome, and lack of wanting to see a tower alongside Highway 35. While health concerns were frequently mentioned, Carter shot down talk of health risks, as no risks have been identified by any federal agencies. Council ultimately voted non-concurrence at the meeting.

Afterwards, council received an email by Jason St. Pierre, the CEO of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN).

In the correspondence to council, St. Pierre writes that EORN acknowledges the council's decision to vote non-concurrence. St. Pierre also writes that the C8590 tower was intended to address service gaps in Minden Hills. Without the tower, approximately 200 homes will remain underserviced or receive intermittent service. These gaps in service will have a direct impact on emergency communications in the area. The second point Pierre made in the letter was that there will be connectivity gaps along Highway 35.

"Please be advised that EORN will not be pursuing an alternative tower site within your municipality to replace tower C8590," writes St. Pierre. "The proposed location of Bobcaygeon Road and Scotch Line Road was identified as the most technically viable solution when evaluated against the project's scope, timelines, and budget."

"I just felt that the EORN correspondence did provide some new information with regards to the cell tower on Bobcaygeon road," said McKelvey. "I have asked that council reconsider their consideration of that issue."

"I am asking council to consider reconsideration of the tower," said McKelvey.

"I'd like to know why EORN didn't even mention Highway 35 before, if it was their intent that it would cover Mountain Lake, after six months of discussions," said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell. "And why the Rogers map doesn't show Highway 35 getting the improved service, if it actually does."

At the council meeting held on July 31, McKelvey questioned whether or not the public consultation performed was adequate. Carter had also expressed that tradespeople have issues with cellphone service in the Mountain Lake area.

When the issue was brought to vote, both Mayor Bob Carter and Councillor McKelvey voted in favour of reconsidering the decision.

Without much debate, the motion to bring Rogers Tower C8590 back to the discussion table was defeated.

# Colleges declare strike

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

It's official. As of 12:01 a.m. on Sept. 11, the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) has declared a strike amongst college support staff, in an effort to ensure job security, says the union.

"This is not just a fight for a contract," says a statement on the OPSEU website, "it's about the future of student support. We're fighting because we know our students need us."

The strike occurs in the midst of an ongoing dispute between OPSEU and the College Employer Council (CEC). The former has been seeking confirmation around job security and appropriate compensation for their roles. "Students deserve quality services kept in-house - not contracted out - and done by the support staff who know how to do the job and have institutional knowledge, not management," said an official OPSEU statement online. "Instead, we're seeing library technologists laid off and replaced by vending machines just weeks later. What's next?"

The strike impacts more than 10,000 full-time support workers from Ontario's 24 public colleges, including the local Haliburton School of Art and Design campus. "We've been given a trespassing order," said Jennifer Downham, the arts certificate coordinator for the college. "So we have to stay on the road, but we're in good spirits."

Downham and a crew of support staff donned signs along College Drive upon hearing the news of the strike. "Colleges are telling us they can't pay us anymore," she said - noting that her own job was cut in the process - but she was able to opt into retirement. "It's been seven years since the government provided funding to Ontario colleges," Downham reported, "and the Ford government is funding the private sector."

The model for programming at Haliburton School of Art and Design differs from traditional college programs. "We're very unique," said Downham, noting that the classes are broken down into weekly models, as opposed to by semester. This allows students in the arts programs to attain skills and knowledge on a fast-tracked timeline. "Our model is so different here."

With support staff striking, the local college is able to keep programs running, but only two administrators are working in the facility. "After cuts there will be only two full-time office support staff left, that currently do not support full-time academic programming," explained Downham. "Plus one full-time support studio tech that supports part and full-time programming. Those two office staff will be expected to take on the brunt of workload, plus their own part time programming."

While discussions have been occurring since June, the final dialogue between parties took place on Sept. 9. "The CEC enhanced its offer to the union bargaining team on September 9, while the union insisted on its 'poison pill' demands that make a deal impossible," said the CEC. "At a time when college enrolments and revenues are down by as much as 50 per cent, OPSEU continues to insist on demands that are fiscally impossible."

"CEC has repeatedly advised OPSEU that these types of demands simply can never be agreed to," said CEC CEO Graham Lloyd. "They are more about broader political campaigns than the benefits we have proposed at the table for their members."

The Ontario Federation of Labour stepped up and made their presence known in light of the discussions, noting that a strike would be "a last-ditch effort to protect Ontario's public colleges."

The organization referenced Ontario colleges as "the backbone" of Ontario's economy. "They reduce poverty, drive employment, and strengthen communities across the province," said the federation. "But instead of funding this vital and strategic public system, the Ontario government is manufacturing a crisis."

This story is continuing to develop, and further updates will be shared once they become available.

# New school superintendent for region

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is pleased to announce Tanya Fraser as superintendent of learning after two years as an associate superintendent. Fraser has responsibilities for all aspects of Grades 9-12 Curriculum Services, Kindergarten to Grade 12 Mental Health Services, Kindergarten to Grade 12 Safe Schools, emergency response, and working with the G7 Student Senate* during the 2025-2026 school year.

Fraser is no stranger to TLDSB with over 23 years of experience in schools across the board, in both elementary and secondary panels. Fraser was first hired as a special education teacher at Huntsville High School, and later became a vice-principal then principal at various schools across the District Municipality of Muskoka. In her role as associate superintendent from 2023-2025, Fraser's portfolio in mental health and well-being, and safe schools spanned both elementary and secondary schools across TLDSB. Having completed her Masters of Education and Supervisory Officer's Certificate, Fraser is well-prepared for this role.

"Tanya is widely recognized for her genuine passion for continuous learning and her commitment to fostering an environment of academic success," says TLDSB director of education, Wes Hahn. "Known for her positivity and creativity in leadership, Tanya has demonstrated a direct support of the TLDSB 2022-2027 Strategic Plan through integrating curriculum and the work of safe and caring schools, all while drawing more attention to the importance of learning about mental health and the impact this makes on students and staff."

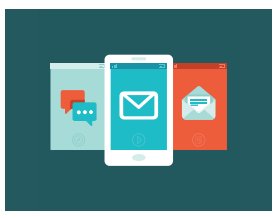
"I am enthusiastic about the challenges and opportunities this portfolio presents, and eager to collaborate with the senior team and trustees to support staff and foster student success in schools," says Fraser. "I look forward to bringing these responsibilities together and know that by thoughtfully integrating mental health, safe schools, and curriculum supports, teaching and learning will be enhanced where it matters the most – in the classroom."

Tanya Fraser has been selected as the new superintendent for learning in the area. /submitted

Fraser lives in Bracebridge with her husband and is a proud mother of twin boys who are currently in post-secondary education. She enjoys running, road trips, singing in the community choir, and spending time with family and friends.

**The TLDSB G7 Student Senate is a group of students made up of one representative from each of the secondary schools, including the Virtual Learning Centre, elected by their peers to help communication between students and bring student issues to the Board of Trustees.*

*Submitted*



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# Minden moves ahead with transfer station plans

THOMAS SMITH
*Journalist*

On Thursday, Sept. 11, Minden Hills Council discussed who will be building the new transfer station for the Scotch Line Landfill. The new station will be built just east of its current location.

On March 5, 2024, Council approved the design of the transfer station and directed staff to include $1.4 million to the 2024 capital budget.

On Oct. 10, council approved of a detailed design concept and an additional $710,000 in the 2025 capital budget.

The new transfer station's design includes 80 foot scales to accommodate trucks and trailers, an accessible wheelchair ramp, a road connecting to the previous location, and a vegetated area.

With an estimated decade of use left in the current landfill site, another transfer station is desperately needed.

This past Thursday, Chelsea Cosh sought council's approval of awarding the contract to Total Site Services. An additional cost of $226,748 for Contract Administration and Site Inspection Services was requested.

Total Site Services is owned and operated by Pat Casey, Ward One councillor for Dysart et al.

"Talking to some of these people, they believe there is a way of saving some more money," said Councillor Bob Sisson. "Making it even cheaper than what it is. Maybe you can have a talk with these guys and see if there are any ideas that maybe save some money."

Cosh says that to ensure fairness to all contract bidders, the project scope must stay the same. Afterwards, if there is room for negotiations and changes they can do so later with the successful bidder.

Councillor McKelvey brought up some discrepancies between the money needed for the project and the numbers they agreed with their budget.

"Every budget we had was $1.7 million," said McKelvey. "I think we need to realize that this is not covered in our budget."

"There is a good chance this will not affect 2026, it may go right into [the 2027 budget]," said Carter. "Before any monies are coming out of our operating budget."

Carter also said that the additional funds in the amount of $2.1 million were supposed to go into the budget. He could not explain why their former treasurer did not add that into the budget.

Carter says that payment for this project would be required six months after. As a capital project, it was going to be paid through debenture.

"This project was to be funded fully by debenture. $1.7 million did go into the budget for this year and we are nowhere near that amount," explained Cosh. "Currently we are at about $8,500 that has been spent on this project."

"Should council choose to award this and construction work to proceed," said Cosh. "The full $2.1 million (less any money spent) would carry over into the 2026 budget."

Cosh says that the money approved for the project was not through taxation.

"How do we ensure that some savings are investigated and reported back," asked McKelvey.

"I think that would be in a discussion with our consultant as well as staff and the contractor," said Cosh. "We would want to make sure that everything stays to code and to ensure that everything is done within engineered specs and that the consulting engineer is comfortable with any changes."

The vote to transfer the funds to Total Site Services was unanimous.

**Calming colours**
People take in the view at Skyline Park on Sept. 11 as fall colours begin to pop in the county. /ADAM FRISK staff

# Terry Fox legacy still lives on in county despite scaled back events

ADAM FRISK

*Journalist*

The legacy of Terry Fox and his Marathon of Hope continues to live on in the county 45 years later, despite scaled back events that celebrate the Canadian icon.

Sunday marked the 45th anniversary of the Marathon of Hope, where a handful of people in Minden laced up to honour Terry and in support of cancer research.

"Terry set out on his Marathon of Hope with a belief that Canadians would rally together to fund cancer research," said Kirsten Fox, Terry's eldest niece, in a press release. "Forty-five years later, our family is still deeply moved and inspired to see millions of Canadians running and fundraising in his name."

Diane Peacock, who was the chair of the Terry Fox organizing committee of the Minden run for 13 years before stepping down in 2019 and a volunteer for 20 years, believes despite the smaller turnouts, Terry's legacy and the run itself still remains strong within the community.

"It hasn't fallen off the radar because there's still people doing the run on their own," Peacock said prior to the run. "Minden still has a 'registered run' with the foundation because I fought to keep it open."

When COVID hit in 2020, it paused the in-person run and it became an online event. Peacock explained an organizer briefly followed in her footsteps but since everything was online during the pandemic, there wasn't much to organize during that time.

Peacock said she's unaware if there's still an organizer on record with the foundation.

"But there's still I think three or four of us who still participate in Terry Fox runs but we kind of do it on our own," Peacock said. "But the money is still credited to the Minden run."

Peacock said that when she left in 2019, the Minden run had raised more than $250,000 for the Terry Fox Foundation. According to the Terry Fox Foundation's website, $410 had been raised as of Sept. 10.

The Terry Fox Foundation put out a call for schools across the country to participate in this year's Terry Fox School Run happening on Sept. 25. Haliburton Highlands Secondary School had raised $300 at the time of writing.

Elementary schools will also be hosting a run on separate days at the end of the month.

Terry Fox was diagnosed with a form of bone cancer in 1977 when he was just 18 years old and had his right leg amputated above the knee. He then began his Marathon of Hope on April 12, 1980, in St. John's, Newfoundland. The athlete ran 143 days, through six provinces, and covered 5,373 kilometres. Terry had to end his run on Sept. 1, just outside of Thunder Bay. The cancer had returned to his lungs and was unable to continue.

Terry died on June 28, 1981. He was 22.

Local schools will continue their Terry Fox runs, with their scheduled runs set for the end up September. /FILE

While larger community Terry Fox runs have dwindled since the COVID-19 pandemic, school runs are still organized each year. /FILE

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## Hope

FORTY-FIVE years ago, Terry Fox started his Marathon of Hope.

A true Canadian icon, Fox rallied communities in the name of hope, and put one foot in front of the other as he set out to unite the country.

And while his legacy has had quantitative impacts in the name of cancer research, what was more significant, was his commitment to continued optimism.

When all forces seemed to be against him, he put one foot in front of the other. Again and again, along the rocky and rambling roads of Canadian landscape, he kept going.

Editorial

*Emily Stonehouse*

It's disheartening to see that community Terry Fox runs seem to have dwindled. Between the shake-up of COVID-19 and a burnt-out population of volunteers, it's no surprise that some of these events have fallen off the radar.

I was approached by several people, inquiring about when our local Terry Fox run is scheduled. While there is currently nothing set in stone, it was a relief to hear that schools intend to continue honouring the legacy of Terry at the end of September.

But why write about Terry Fox, during a time in the world that seems to be in upheaval. It's a complicated era. Massive dichotomizations of right and wrong, good and evil.

When our own children are coming home, sharing that a normal part of their day consists of practicing lockdown drills in their elementary school classroom, you know that something is wrong.

When you're scrolling on your phone and see anger, hate, violence, abuse - verbally, physically, emotionally, you know that something is wrong.

When basic human rights are up for debate; stifling women's autonomy of their own bodies, limiting access to gender-affirming care, snuffing out mental health services and equity enhancing initiatives, you know that something is wrong.

I recognize that a lot has happened since 1980. The world has changed. And maybe that's a direct result of suddenly peering behind the curtain via our blue-lit screens, and getting a glimpse of what happens behind closed doors, but it's clear. We know that something is wrong.

When Terry Fox hiked his way across Canada, it was for more than cancer research fundraising. It was for hope. It was an opportunity to see a brave young kid go against the norm; the constant forces pushing against him and limiting his next steps, and showing the world what could be done if you simply carry hope in your heart.

Terry Fox inspired millions. And while we may not all be participating in community runs this year, I think, this month, we should all think about him. About what he fought for, how he saw the world, what he believed in, and the sprinkling of hope he scattered around the country as a whole. It's been a long time since the country has joined together under one cause, one belief, one hero, one hope.

There is good in the world. And when those forces of darkness threaten to suck us in, sometimes all we need is that little glimmer to keep moving forward.

One foot in front of the other.

## The importance of friction

WITH THE glut of online articles about how generative AI tools like ChatGPT are making us dumber (which, as I said in a previous column, isn't precisely true,) an interesting conversation started around the role of friction in our lives as technology makes things easier and easier for us.

Friction, in the physics sense, is a force that happens between two surfaces as they slide or roll against one another. Friction is a force you need to overcome if you are sliding a piece of furniture across a floor. Friction generates heat which is why you can (with a great deal of effort) start a fire by rubbing two sticks together. Friction helps your fingers grip your mug and prevents you from dropping your precious morning coffee all over the rug.

*Humans &*

Technology

*Erin Kernohan-Berning*

Metaphorically, friction can mean anything in our lives that makes something more difficult. In this sense, technology has greatly reduced the amount of friction in our day-to-day lives. The electric light made illuminating our living spaces easier and safer. The internal combustion engine made journeys that previously took days achievable in hours. Email allows us to communicate with the other side of the world in seconds rather than the weeks or months it would take to deliver a physical letter. Before these innovations, those tasks were much more difficult taking more time, energy, and effort.

However, the removal of all friction from our lives isn't necessarily a good thing. Working through a process with friction, such as learning about a new topic, can be where we gain new insights. Reading widely, running into dead ends and conflicting information, and puzzling through a problem that's difficult to understand forces us to think critically and generate our own ideas. This cognitive friction can help us develop our thinking and deepen our knowledge.

AI powered chatbots acting as answer machines, however, smooth out the cognitive friction that comes with learning something new. When prompted to summarize a topic, a chatbot will spit out whatever echoes of that topic are in its training data, mimicking the synthesis that comes with research and learning within seconds. While words may have been produced quickly, for the person using the tool, no new ideas or insights have been made. This is backed up by the MIT study earlier this year by Kosmyna, et al that measured brain activity while using LLMs – the least amount of brain activity was seen in the participants who used only an LLM for the assigned task, and recall was the lowest when asked to summarize their learning.

Friction when learning something new can also help build resilience. There's a somewhat pop-psychology term known as the "trough of despair" which has been applied to a number of fields including learning and change management. The trough of despair occurs when you're learning something new and are overcoming the feeling that you're never going to "get it." The trough of despair is filled with confusion and frustration but is ultimately temporary. With some effort and perseverance, it is usually followed by an increase in understanding and competence. Getting through the trough of despair, knowing that despite feeling like you can't figure things out but ultimately will, makes enduring that phase the next time you learn something new easier.

While friction in our lives can be important, it doesn't mean we want needless friction. This isn't a "when I was in school I walked uphill both ways through the snow, and so can you" situation. We want the tools we use to work well, safely, and without unnecessary barriers. Efficiency can still be a goal, while recognizing that learning things and learning them well requires an investment of time that may feel frustratingly inefficient. Going back to MIT and Kosmyna, et al, this doesn't preclude the use of generative AI in the learning process (the group that went from brain-only to furthering their work with an LLM outperformed all groups in their study). But do I think it makes the case that ChatGPT should probably not be the first stop on the path to learning.

A little bit of friction in our lives can be a good thing. It can teach us to move through difficulty and discomfort in the pursuit of a goal. It can help us generate new ideas and better hold on to the knowledge that we've gained. So, when we're looking at the technology we use that reduce the friction in our lives, we should ask at what cost.

# points of view

## Running with scissors

NOT ALL that long ago, I was alone in my office looking at my laptop screen when Jenn suddenly entered the room.

Caught by surprise, I closed my laptop quickly so she would not see what was on the screen. Because, frankly, even though I am a grown adult and this is a free country and I can watch what I like, I didn't want her to see it.

"What were you looking at?" she asked, her interest piqued by the fact that I was now clearly nervous.

"Oh, nothing," I said.

"It sure doesn't appear that way," she said.

"OK, you got me," I said. "I was looking at an Internet porn site…People were naked and everything."

She then seized my laptop and opened it quickly.

Honestly, I have not blushed like that in a long time.

"I can't believe you are looking at this," she said. "Why?"

"I was hoping I could teach you something new," I muttered.

"So, you visited Wikipedia and searched "When were scissors invented?"

Loon Tales

*Steve Galea*

"I clicked the wrong button," I lied. "I was actually trying to find a porn site – one with naked people and everything."

But we both knew that wasn't true.

I sat there, mortified, as Jenn perused the screen and my search history, which was full of educational trivia.

I wondered if she would think less of me – or insist I go to counseling.

Then she turned my laptop towards me with its full screen displaying the Wikipedia page I had been reading. The entry described, in graphic detail, how scissors were invented somewhere between three and four thousand years ago in ancient Mesopotamia.

"This is what you browse when I'm not around?" she asked incredulously.

"You got me," I said, as I hung my head in shame. "Please don't tell my fishing buddies."

"Why? Why do you do this?"

"You're smarter than me," I confessed.

She quickly put two and two together and came up with four, which admittedly is something I can also do, provided I am allowed to use a reliable calculator.

"So, this explains your sudden spate of strange and interesting statements at the dinner table," she muttered.

"No, I said. "That was all me."

"Even the time that you were telling me about the history of the Gregorian calendar?" she said.

"OK, that was pure Wikipedia. But the statement about kangaroo babies not having to wear diapers was all me…" I countered.

"Yes," she said. "I'll buy that…"

With the truth laid bare, I went on to explain everything I had learned from Wikipedia about the invention of scissors. And during that next five minutes, Jenn was apparently amazed by it all. I could tell by the way her eyes alternated between me and the sharp pair of scissors on the table beside her.

It turns out that she had a lot of questions about scissors. Mostly, about how fast I might be able to run with them.

My answer caught her off guard too.

"Scissors were invented four thousand years ago in Mesopotamia," I repeated. "If my guess is correct, no one has been allowed to run with them since a half hour after that…"

She looked at me and shook her head.

"That statement was definitely you," she answered.

I nodded. Then, I continued to regale her about scissors for the rest of the evening. Suffice it to say, there was never a dull moment.

## pic *of the* past

Murray Trip submitted this photo of his grandparents: Bill Porter (born 1878), Adelain Bowman (born 1878), Frank Porter (born 1917) in a cabin in the Haliburton Highlands. /FILE

## Like a plant

KATIE WAS amazed. Just when she thought she had lost it, she realized she hadn't. And for some strange reason – it gave her hope.

She knew the world was going through difficult times. Even though she lived in Canada and so was relatively safe compared to other places, still there was this vague feeling of unease. Like something was about to happen: something threatening and unpredictable.

In an effort to shake it off, Katie threw herself into gardening. Whenever she had been faced with difficult situations in the past, she found moving dirt and plants around always helped to put the world into a better perspective. So here she was today, inspecting, digging and rearranging.

Our road Down

*Sharon Lynch*

All winter she had watched a small plant struggle to survive. It was a begonia she had brought indoors the previous fall because it had been too lovely to let die when the frost arrived.

When she brought it inside, she had cut it down to a few inches while it was dormant. The only place for it to fit had been in a corner of her den. Most of the light there came from the fish aquarium and as the winter progressed Katie had watched the begonia change.

Slowly it grew more stem and leaves. But they were paler than the summer foliage, more spindly and uncertain. Eventually flowers appeared, sparse and pale, turned toward the aquarium's light.

Then spring arrived and with it, the promise of change and new life. Katie moved the begonia back outdoors and placed it under a shrub, out of direct sunlight which she knew would kill the tender growth. Every so often she watered it but because it was partially hidden tucked under the larger plant, she sometimes forgot.

But it managed to survive and in fact, prosper. The stem and leaves darkened to a healthier shade of green, and before the summer was almost over, a profusion of bright red flowers once again emerged. A real transformative re-birth had taken place.

The nights were once more turning cold and Katie knew she had to bring the begonia indoors again if she wanted it to survive. So for the second time she brought it inside. Looking at its still-robust green and red presence beside the aquarium, she wished it could stay that way through the next several months. But she knew it couldn't. It was meant to have a resting period over the winter, to recoup its strength for the celebration of life that was next year's spring and summer.

As the winter progressed, Katie often looked at her begonia and the changes it continued to experience. It really was a hardy little plant though you wouldn't know to see it. Small, easy to overlook in its surroundings yet tenacious. Surviving famine, drought and visibility, it took what it could from what was available and somehow managed to survive. Katie only hoped the world could do the same.

letters to the editor

# Elbows up, flags down

**To the Editor,**

During a recent visit, my enjoyment of the beautiful scenery of Haliburton was spoiled by observing an American flag flying in front of Curry Motors.

We live in times when Canadians working at the General Motors facility in Oshawa are facing probable job losses due to American tariffs. Those workers build vehicles that Curry Motors sells. It is insensitive at best and disrespectful at worst for a GM dealership to display the flag of a country bent on crippling our automobile manufacturing and auto parts industries.

The General Motors dealerships in Peterborough, Carleton Place and Perth all sport a single large flagpole flying only our Canadian flag. Good for them. Some other GM dealers display no flags. But I am not aware of any other GM dealership in the area that flies the American flag.

Donald Trump has made no secret of his desire to annex Canada as the United States' 51st state. He wants to see the American flag flying over our Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. He sees tariffs as one tool towards achieving that goal.

Most Canadians are horrified at the prospect of joining the United States. Would an expanded U.S. adopt the Canadian parliamentary model of governance? Would they adopt, among other things, Canada's universal health care? A non-political Supreme Court? Respect for diversity?

As well as asserting sovereignty, a flag embodies the values of a country. In many key respects, the values of the United States are not the values of Canada.

Tourism is important. Individual Americans are welcome to visit. But their impression of Haliburton does not hinge on them seeing or not seeing the American flag.

So come on, Curry Motors. Stand up for Canada. Support Canadian workers and their families.

Elbows up; American flag down!

**Don Rogers,**
**Tichborne ON**

# Questions around gas prices

**To the Editor,**

On Saturday, I drove from Haliburton to Orillia and was shocked by the wide variation in gas prices within such a short distance. In Haliburton, gas was 146.9. In Minden, it was 139.9, and just down the road in Ramara, it was 126.9.

That's a difference of 20 cents per litre within less than an hour's drive. How can there be such a huge discrepancy in such a small radius? Families, commuters, and businesses are feeling the strain of high fuel costs, and it's frustrating to see such inconsistency from town to town.

When we first heard a new gas station was coming to Haliburton, many of us were hopeful it would generate healthy competition and bring prices down. Instead, we now find ourselves with two stations owned by the same company, leaving the community vulnerable to price gouging rather than benefitting from fair competition.

It's time we had more transparency in how these prices are set. Consumers deserve to know why one community is paying so much more than another. We have started a Facebook group for all interested in joining, called Fair Gas Prices for Haliburton.

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Korpela,**
**Haliburton**

# Algonquin Park human remains identified more than four decades later

*Remains identified with investigative genetic genealogy*

Human remains discovered in 1980 have now been identified through the use of investigative genetic genealogy (IGG).

On Saturday, April 19, 1980, a hiker located human remains near the Hardwood Lookout Trail in Algonquin Park. As a result, members of the Whitney Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB), began an extensive search with the assistance of the Ministry of Natural Resources. Over several days, a boot, a leather wallet, clothing, a sleeping bag, camping gear and additional human remains were located at the scene and examined by the Office of the Chief Coroner (OCC) and the Ontario Forensic Pathology Service (OFPS).

It was determined that the deceased was a white male estimated to be between 18 and 21 years of age at the time of his death. Foul play was not suspected in his death.

It was initially estimated that the male had died sometime between July 1, 1971, and spring 1978. Further investigation narrowed the estimated time of death to approximately two years before the remains were discovered. Despite comparing the remains to several missing persons reports and issuing public appeals, the case remained unsolved.

On Thursday, March 23, 1995, additional human remains were discovered along the same trail. A jawbone located along the trail was examined by the OFPS and confirmed to belong to the human remains found in 1980. Although further searches were conducted, no additional remains or items were found.

In 2017, the OPP unveiled a three-dimensional clay facial reconstruction created by the OPP forensic artist. This generated dozens of tips, but despite investigation of the leads brought forward, none led to a confirmed identity.

The investigation continued and, in April 2022, the male's DNA was submitted to the DNA Doe Project for IGG analysis in an attempt to determine his identity through family members. By September 2023, the presumptive identity was verified and used by CIB detectives to locate living family members. DNA from family members was used to confirm the male's identity and the family was notified.

After more than four decades, the deceased has finally been identified as Eric (Ricky) Singer of Cleveland, Ohio. Ricky had last been seen at his parents' residence in Berea, Ohio, on Thursday, October 4, 1973.

This summer, Ricky's sisters travelled from the United States to walk the Hardwood Lookout Trail with investigators and visit the place where their brother spent his final days. Photos and an OPP video, featuring an overview of the case as well as interviews with investigators and Ricky's sisters, are available at opp.ca/news. Members of the public can also visit the new IGG webpage at opp.ca/igg for additional information about how IGG is being used in OPP investigations.

The OPP would like to thank the public and the media for their continued interest in the investigation and the tips shared over the years. The investigation was completed under the direction of the CIB. Assistance was provided by members from various OPP detachments, including Whitney, Killaloe, Renfrew and Bancroft, as well as by the OCC, the OFPS and the DNA Doe Project.

"After years of uncertainty, a family now has the answers they've been longing for thanks to the investigative efforts from many OPP units, the Office of the Chief Coroner, the Ontario Forensic Pathology Service and the DNA Doe Project," said Senior Detective Inspector Sean Chatland. "Innovative tools such as investigative genetic genealogy are rewriting the possibilities for investigations, including historic cases. We're deeply committed to continuing this important work and helping more families find the answers they deserve."

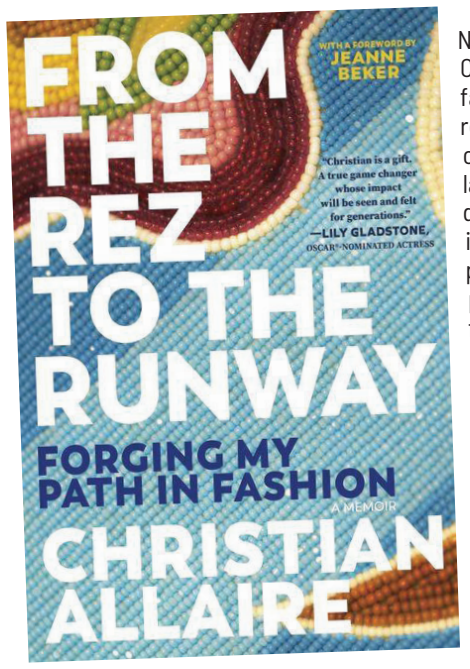
*Submitted*

# Minden Memories

Norma Barron and friends, 1954 at the local Post Office. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HALIBURTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Book of the Week


WITH A FOREWORD BY JEANNE BEKER
"Christian is a gift. A true game changer whose impact will be seen and felt for generations."
—LILY GLADSTONE, OSCAR®-NOMINATED ACTRESS
FROM THE REZ TO THE RUNWAY
FORGING MY PATH IN FASHION
A MEMOIR
CHRISTIAN ALLAIRE

Growing up on the Nipissing First Nation reserve in Northern Ontario, Christian Allaire dreamed of a career in fashion - a world that seemed far out of reach. Introduced to style through his culture's traditional Ojibwe regalia, he later became captivated by high-fashion designs and runway shows. His unwavering interest in fashion led him to complete a journalism degree so he could pursue his goal of becoming a full-time fashion writer.

From grinding as an unpaid intern, to becoming a glitzy (but overworked) fashion editor, Allaire writes with feeling about the struggle to find his place – and community – in the highly exclusive world of fashion.

*From the Rez to the Runway* by Christian Allaire is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library. To place a hold or learn more, visit haliburtonlibrary.ca.

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# Introducing: Lakelands Public Health to Haliburton

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

It doesn't feel like that long ago that the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit and Peterborough Public Health joined forces to become Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit.

A mouthful for all, but staff wanted to ensure that the January 1 launch of the merger was encapsulating the many communities it served.

It wasn't long before the organization opted to re-develop the title. "I wouldn't call it a rebrand," said Dr. Thomas Piggott, medical officer of health and chief executive officer for the organization. "I would call it a new brand, instead."

On Sept. 11, the merged group publicly released their new title: Lakelands Public Health. "This is more than a new name and logo," said Piggott. "It's a commitment to building a healthier future together for generations to come. By bringing our teams, expertise, and resources under one identity, we're better equipped to meet the evolving needs of our communities."

Piggott noted that the process to come up with an appropriate name took considerable thought and consideration. "It's been a really neat journey," he said during a telephone interview. "We did some really wonderful exercises, including Indigenous voices and expertise."

"The new name and identity was created in consultation with Indigenous partners with respect to inclusivity and equality and touches on many important concepts," said Liz Stone, chair of the Indigenous Health Advisory Circle in a recent press release. "The circle represents wholeness as it relates to health, spiritual, mental, emotional and physical, or 'Mino Bimaadiziwin - Good Life', while the colours acknowledge the importance of Water and Earth, as well as the Sun and Moon in the centre."

Piggott believes that by coming together as a unified name, the organizations involved with the merger will be represented both in their unique needs, as well as the commonality they share in their services. "I see so much in common," he said. "We want to maintain that local connection, and there is so much opportunity to think about the unique needs, and how we can look after those."

> ***"This is more than a new name and logo. It's a commitment to building a healthier future together for generations to come ..."***
>
> — Dr. Thomas Piggott, Lakelands Public Health

The merger itself was done on a voluntary basis between the existing health units. "We looked at what we had, and we thought we could make something bigger and stronger together," said Piggott.

Piggott referred to the partnership as "a bit of a Goldilocks thing," he laughed. Initially, Peterborough was set to partner with Durham, but he noted that would have been too big. Then, there were ideas about staying independent, but that would have been too small. But together, with Lakelands Public Health, "that's just right."

In the official press release, health unit staff noted that residents across the board will continue to access a wide range of public health services and programs within their communities, including immunizations and infectious disease prevention, health promotion, environmental health, and emergency preparedness.

Redesigned logos and marketing materials will be rolled out in the coming months. "We wanted our staff to all feel seen with this brand," said Piggott, "and it really beautifully reflects this region."

# Drought taking the fun out of peak fungi season

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Chicken of the woods pictured in this 2024 file photo. /ADAM FRISK staff

The summer-long drought has taken its toll on trees, crops, some local businesses and now it seems to have taken the fun out of peak fungi season.

For many outdoor enthusiasts, foraging for mushrooms is an autumn tradition. This time of year is seen as peak fungi season, but for many shroom hunters, the forest isn't exactly popping with fruit.

"It's been a historic drought. I actually looked back at some of the records and I haven't seen any data anywhere that there's been seven weeks where we didn't have rain," outdoor educator Stephan Lukacic said in a Sept. 10 telephone interview. "And that has really negatively affected mushrooms. Mushrooms are like us, they're 95 per cent water, they need water."

For the month of August alone, the county saw only about 20 millimetres of rain, according to historical data from Environment And Climate Change Canada.

Lukacic explained that the mycelial network, which is the underground web of fungal threads within the forest floor and the organism that makes mushrooms, for it to even consider popping up a fruit, it needs that basic element - water.

"Looking at the data, we're short almost 50 per cent of our annual rainfall right now, what the forest should have had and that deficit is a big question mark," the avid forager said. "The forest is still very dry even though we had some decent rain. It's just soaking it up like a sponge and I'm still not seeing a ton of fungal activity."

Fungi play a crucial role in breaking down organic matter and recycling nutrients while supporting the health of trees, plants and a slew of other organisms. When fungal growth slows in a forest, it slows down tree growth, affects soil health and water retention and the overall health of the forest.

In autumn, that's when the forests usually produce a variety of species, from prized chanterelles and the common oyster mushrooms, to king boletes and the hen of the woods.

"Trumpets come this time of year," Lukacic said. "They usually come earlier but all my trumpet spots were dry as a bone, they didn't fruit at all over the summer."

The outdoor educator, who teaches an introductory course about foraging for wild edible mushrooms with Deep Roots Adventure, still remains hopeful for the fall mushroom season but said we simply need rain, and lots of it.

"It's a wild card. With climate change all of nature is upside down, everything is topsy-turvy," Lukacic said. "The migratory patterns are being affected, mushrooms, plants … plants are resilient and they can bounce back but mushrooms on the other hand, it's bad news, man."

If you are interested in learning more about wild mushrooms, Lukacic has two remaining identification courses left for the season, one on Sept. 27 and the other the following week on Oct. 4. Check out deeprootsadventure.com for more information.

"IF THESE WALLS
The Legendary Horseshoe Tavern, Massey Hall & The Importance of Live Music
Venues in the Cultural Fabric of Our Cities
Telling Our Stories Speaker Series, Haliburton, Ont. September 10, 2025
MASSEY HALL
DAVID MCPHERSON
Foreword by Jann Arden

Journalist and best selling author David McPherson poses for a photo ahead of his talk at the fish hatchery on Sept. 10. /ADAM FRISK staff

# Haliburton's music scene thriving thanks to local 'champions': author

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Haliburton County's thriving music scene is growing in reputation as a must-play area, all thanks to local "champions" of the industry, bestselling author says.

Journalist and author of *The Legendary Horseshoe Tavern: A Complete History* and *Massey Hall* David McPherson praised the music scene in the Highlands during a speaking engagement at the fish hatchery last week.

"I was pleasantly thrilled to hear how vibrant the music community is up here," McPherson told the sold-out audience. "Obviously you have local champions who believe in the importance of economic and cultural impact that live music has."

McPherson was invited to speak as part of Haliburton's Telling Our Stories Speaker Series. The intimate engagement focused on two of Toronto's historic and iconic music venues – Massey Hall and the Horseshoe Tavern.

For nearly two hours, McPherson shared the history behind the two venues, how they became to be, some of the famous bands and musicians who took to the stage, while speaking to the importance of live music and the venues that host the talent.

In his books about the venues, McPherson goes beyond the retelling of events and dives deeper into the grit, charm and romanticism of each building. He touches on how the Horseshoe played a significant role in launching the careers of some of Canada's biggest bands to the likes of The Tragically Hip and Blue Rodeo, while hosting internationally celebrated bands like The Rolling Stones.

The Ontario-based journalist spoke about the significance of Massey Hall and how it became a cultural cornerstone since its inception more than a century ago. He talked about the extensive renovation the building had undergone, legendary acts to perform there including Rush, Neil Young and of course Gordon Lightfoot, to which Massey Hall became known as "The House that Gord Built." Lightfoot performed a record 170 shows at the hall and was the last performer to close the building before the renovations began in 2018.

McPherson spoke passionately about how venues play an important role in the music industry. As for the county, he noted that the variety of venues throughout the area and the amount of live music that is offered during any given week, it's a blessing for the community.

"We noticed that a lot more during COVID, it caused a lot of isolation and I think that's where we saw it, the arts was one of the things that we missed the most," he said. "I know myself would love going to live music and tuning into a webcast is not quite the same as being around people and sharing that moment with others and I think that's the one thing that is so great.

"Your community, it seems like you have a lot of people who love music and see the value of it, and that's what it takes," the author said.

He credited the local newspapers, radio stations and venues such as the Dominion Hotel and the Music Room with helping to establish the vibrant music scene.

"You have big name artists that you're drawing to come up here now," McPherson said. "It's the reputation that you have created here, too."

McPherson ended the intimate evening by signing his books for guests and speaking with eager audience members.

# Community comes together to fight fire

**from page 1**

telephone interview. "Then Dave got the fire pump from the box and brought it around."

As Allan's son-in-law and the neighbour battled the blaze, an email blast from the Koshlong Lake Association (KLA) went out to property owners, alerting them of the fire on the lake.

"People just started coming," Allan recalled.

Boat after boat, cottagers and locals made their way to the bay in an effort to help in any way possible.

"My son-in-law was down there on the beach fighting the fire with everyone and he said people were jumping out their boats in their clothes," Allan said. "Some people didn't have shoes, my son-in-law was offering up shoes to people, somebody swam in from their boat because it was too crowded at the beach.

"It was quite the response," she said.

The family estimates more than 20 people were out there battling the blaze before the fire department arrived.

"The fire was basically out by the time they got there, so without the KLA firebox program and the community response it could have been so much worse," Allan said. "Everything was out and the fire people stayed for a couple of hours, really dosing the area and using thermal detectors to make sure there were no hot spots on the property."

Following the blaze, the Allan family thanked the community for their response, noting that if it wasn't for them and the firebox program, more than just a sauna and a stored sailboat would have been lost as a result of the fire.

"The Koshlong community saved our cottage, our neighbours cottage and the surrounding forest. Without the fast action of so many of you, the outcome could have been much worse. For all of you who were able to come and help, we will be forever grateful to you," the family wrote in a letter to the community. "As awful as the event was, it was also very heartwarming. We get bombarded in the news of all the bad things that have been happening in the world lately. But, the Koshlong Lake community showed us that our community is full of brave, caring, generous people who would do anything to help their neighbours."

There's more than a dozen fireboxes strategically placed around Koshlong Lake. Each box contains an air horn, hoses, nozzles, mechanical pumps and some protective gear.

> ***"The Koshlong community saved our cottage, our neighbours cottage and the surrounding forest..."***
>
> — Allan family

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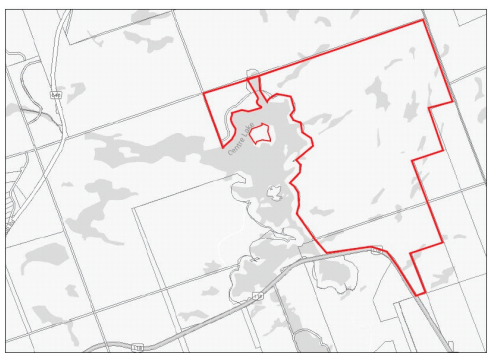
**Notice of Public Meeting – 9184384 Canada Inc. (Granite Shores)**

**Please be advised that** the Municipality of Highlands East has received complete applications to amend the Municipality's Official Plan and Comprehensive Zoning By-law.

The site-specific amendments apply to vacant lands located north of Highway 118 and east of Centre Lake as illustrated on the Key Map.



**Purpose and Effect:**

**Requested Amendment to Highlands East Official Plan:**
The applicant's requested amendment to the Official Plan would create a site-specific special policy area to permit a vacant lot plan of condominium/subdivision with thirty-three recreational residential lots within the Municipality's Shoreline Official Plan designation without direct frontage on or ownership of the shoreline of Centre Lake.

**Requested Amendment to the Comprehensive Zoning By-law:**
The proposed amendment would create land use regulations for thirty-three seasonal residential lots serviced by private condominium road, a highway commercial block fronting on Highway 118, three open space common element blocks and one open space common element block with proposed public hiking trails.

**Take Notice** that the Municipality of Highlands East will be holding a Public Meeting as required under the Planning Act. The Public Meeting is an opportunity for Council to hear and consider comments related to the proposed amendments. Any member of the public may speak in favour, or opposition to, the proposed amendments during the Public Meeting.

**Public Meeting (OPA-01-2025 / RZ-15-2025)**
**Date:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025
**Time:** 9:30 am
**Location:** This will be held as a virtual meeting via Zoom

Members of the public who wish to watch the meeting can do so by joining the live-stream link, available on the Municipality's website on the day of the meeting: https://www.highlandseast.ca.

Members of the public who wish to provide comments at the public meeting or provide written comments to be considered by Council should e-mail planning@highlandseast.ca by 4:00 pm on October 6, 2025.

**Additional Information and materials** regarding the proposed amendments are available to the public for inspection at the Municipal Office located at 2249 Loop Road in Wilberforce by appointment or by visiting https://www.highlandseast.ca.

For more information about this matter, including information about preserving your appeal rights, contact the Municipality at **planning@highlandseast.ca**.

**Dated** this 10th day of September, 2025.

Kimberley Roberts, Junior Planner

# Fire calls up in Highlands East in August

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Calls to the fire department in Highlands East were up in August and continue the upward trend year-over-year.

Fire Chief Chris Baughman presented his monthly report during Sept. 9 regular council meeting.

According to the report, firefighters responded to a total of 39 calls for the month of August, which is the highest call volume for the same month in five years. Last year, firefighters responded to 31 calls for the same month and 38 calls in 2023.

Fire station 3 in Gooderham handled the most calls for the month, responding to 15 incidents, according to the fire report. Station 4 in Wilberforce handled 12 calls, station 2 in Highland Grove took on five incidents, station 1 in Cardiff handled four while station 6 in Paudash responded to three incidents.

To date, there have been 207 calls to the fire department for the year, that's two more than last year and nine more than 2023.

**Employment Opportunity**
**Municipality of Dysart et al**

**Public Works Equipment Operator**
**(permanent, full-time)**

The Municipality of Dysart et al is looking for an energetic and motivated individual to join our Public Works team as a Full-Time Equipment Operator. This role offers a dynamic work environment, supporting construction, maintenance and winter operations that keep our municipality moving safely in all seasons.

Reporting to the Operation Manager the successful applicant will have sound knowledge and methods, tools, and equipment required for the general maintenance of the municipal road system including bridges, culverts, drainage, and other roads / property. Primary duties include, but not limited to operations of a sidewalk plow, dump truck (with sander/snowplow), backhoe, loader and grader.

Self-motivated applicants must be able to work outdoors in all weather with minimal supervision. A valid Ontario 'A' or 'D' licence (manual) with 'Z' endorsement is required along with an acceptable abstract. Pursuant to CUPE Local #2142 the rate of pay is $28.88 per hour based on a 40-hour work week. Pension and Benefits after a 6-month probationary period.

Upon final selection, the applicant will be required to provide, at their own expense, a Criminal Record and Judicial Matters check from the Ontario Provincial Police or appropriate police force.

The detailed job description is available on our website www.dysartetal.ca/careers

Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter to:

Sonja Marx, HR Manager
hr@dysartetal.ca
No Later Than 12:00 pm Friday September 19th, 2025.

*** We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes. ***

# Abbey Gardens to mark National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Ojibwe horses Maple and Sammy will be available to meet those interested on Sept. 30, the Notional Day for Truth and Reconciliation. /FILE

To commemorate National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Abbey Gardens is inviting the community to a special "meet and greet" with the rare Ojibwe Spirit Horses who call the Haliburton Highlands home.

On Sept. 30, the community will have the opportunity to meet Maple and Sammy and learn about the cultural significance of these animals to Indigenous People.

Ojibwe horses, formerly known as Lac La Croix Indigenous ponies, is a small breed believed to be the only existing horse breed developed by Indigenous People in Canada.

"There's some documentation from back in the day that there used to be herds of thousands of them running wild in northern Ontario, Manitoba and into certain parts of the northern U.S.," Lesley English, Ojibwe Horse Society board member, said in a telephone interview. "But after colonization and settlers arrived there was competition of grazing land with settlers' animals so the Indigenous People were pressured to give up the horses or because they ran wild they were just rounded up and were sent to slaughter.

"Then dams were built that flooded their grazing areas and then the final nail in the coffin was the introduction of the snowmobile, which meant Indigenous People no longer needed the horses for transportation and for hauling ice or for servicing trap lines," she said.

English, who is also a member of the Abbey Gardens' Pony Team, a group of dedicated volunteers who care for Ojibwe Spirit Horses, said the pony population was decimated and by 1977, only four mares remained in the Lac La Croix First Nation area.

Highlighting the event at Abbey Gardens will be a reading by acclaimed children's author Heather O'Connor, who will share from her new picture-book called *Across the Ice: How We Saved the Ojibwe Horse,* which tells the story of the rescue of the four remaining mares.

Four men essentially smuggled the mares across the frozen waters and into the U.S. There the mares were bred to Spanish Mustangs stallions who very closely resemble the breed, English explained.

"So every horse we have now, and there's very few of them, there's fewer than 200, came from those original four mares," English said. "Indigenous People feel that the systematic elimination and suppression of these horses is very very closely matching their own struggles around residential schools and the suppression of language.

"It was just another piece of Indigenous culture that was taken away," English said.

Awareness around these horses is increasing, English said, noting that there are breeders in Canada and at least one in the U.S. which is helping the cause.

"There's a lot of people who want them now," English said. "And there's not enough to satisfy demand but this is a good thing because it raises awareness to this piece of culture that most people didn't know about."

Abbey Gardens, which is on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe people and territory of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations, hopes the event will help serve as a day of learning, understanding, and acknowledgment, while furthering the community's collective journey of reconciliation.

**Employment Opportunity**
**Municipality of Dysart et al**

**Municipal and School Board Elections**
**Coordinator/Administrative Clerk**
**(14-Month Contract, Full Time)**

Due to an upcoming maternity leave, the Municipality of Dysart et al is looking for a diligent and versatile professional to fill the role of Municipal and School Board Elections Coordinator/ Administrative Clerk. This multifaceted position is crucial to the smooth operation of our municipal and school board elections and involves key administrative responsibilities.

Reporting to the Chief Administrative Officer/Interim Clerk, the Municipal and School Board Elections Coordinator/Administrative Clerk will plan, organize, and oversee all aspects of municipal and school board election in Dysart et al, maintain a robust records management system, handle Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, manage insurance claims, oversee municipal approvals for liquor licenses and provide general administrative support to the CAO/ Interim Clerk.

We are seeking a candidate with expertise in municipal governance and legislation with excellent organizational, communication, and problem-solving skills. Candidates must be able to manage multiple tasks efficiently, prioritize effectively, and adapt in a fast-paced environment. They must possess a high degree of integrity and commitment to maintaining confidentiality and protecting privacy. Qualifications should include a postsecondary degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, Political Science, or a related field.

This role is integral to enhancing operational efficiency and public trust through transparency and compliance. If you're ready to make a meaningful impact on our community and possess the qualifications we seek, we invite you to apply.

The detailed job description is available on our website at www.dysartetal.ca/careers. Interested individuals are invited to email a detailed resume and cover letter to:

**Sonja Marx, HR Manager at hr@dysartetal.ca**
**No later than 12:00 pm (noon) September 30, 2025.**

*** We thank all who apply; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Accommodations for applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request. The Municipality of Dysart et al is an equal opportunity employer. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used only for employment purposes. ***

**Municipality of Dysart et al**
135 Maple Avenue,
P.O.Box 389
Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0
Telephone: 705-457-1740 Fax: 705.457.1964
Email: info@dysartetal.ca Website: www.dysartetal.ca

**NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING**
**TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION**
**TO PURCHASE AN ORIGINAL ALLOWANCE FOR ROAD**
**MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL**

**DATE:** September 23, 2025
**TIME:** Any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.

**LOCATION:** Council Chambers, Municipal Office, 135 Maple Ave., Haliburton, Ontario.
**APPLICATIONS:**

The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has, by resolution, declared the following parcels of land to be surplus.

**Applicant:** Marinescu & Jones
**Location:** 2777 Boice Bradley Dr.
Part of Boice's Road on registered Plan 619, part of the original allowance for road between concessions 12 and 13, part of the original shore road allowance in front of Lot 28, Concession 13, and part of the original shore road allowance in front of the original allowance for road between concessions 12 and 13, in the geographic Township of Guilford, defined as Parts 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 on the preliminary plan prepared by Bishop Geyer Surveying Inc. dated July 29, 2024.

**Applicant:** Tansey & MacKay
**Location:** 1024 Tobermory Trail
Part of the original allowance for road between Lots 20 and 21, Concession 1, in the geographic Township of Guilford, defined as Part 2 on registered plan 19R-9292 prepared by Paul Wilson Consulting Ltd. dated December 31, 2010.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portion of road allowance described above.

**BEFORE PASSING** the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (8:30 am. to 4:30 pm. Monday to Friday).

**DATED** at the Township of Dysart, this 16th day of September 2025.

Lana McLeaming
Planning Administrative Clerk

Local kids will have an opportunity to learn about basketball this fall, based on the interest expressed in the spring sessions, offered by volunteer coaches and organizers. /submitted

# Slam dunk; local basketball house league hits the courts

EMILY STONEHOUSE

*Editor*

Our community is often associated with hockey when we think sports, but in reality, there's so much more.

When Kristy Waito's kids developed an interest in basketball, herself and a dedicated group of volunteers realized a gap in the community.

Around 15 years ago, there was a Junior NBA program, led by high school coaches with the intention of preparing Grade 7 and 8s with the skills to play on the senior teams in high school.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, that program took a hiatus, but when sports picked back up again, Waito noted a number of parents driving out of town to participate in basketball. "We kept running into each other," she chuckled. "So we thought about it, and we thought 'we can do this. Let's bring ball to Haliburton.'"

In spring of 2022, a group of volunteers launched a new variation of the Junior NBA program, this time catered for Kindergartners, right up to Grade 8. For the program, the organizers partnered with Basketball Canada, which provided players and coaches with jerseys, balls, practice schedules, and a drill bank.

"The point was to get basketballs into kids hands, so they could play all summer," said Waito, noting that the program was met with tremendous interest and success: over 100 local kids registered in that first year.

Waito shared that the success comes from the coaching staff. "We have really great coaches," she said. "They all have tons of coaching experience with basketball, and tons of experience with kids."

But because the spring program was met with such interest, Waito and the volunteer organizers saw an opportunity to expand. "There was a lot of demand in the community for more basketball," she said.

This fall, the organization has launched their fall house league, aimed specifically for the ages in Grades 4 to 6, which was where Waito noted there was the most interest from the spring league. "Where spring is more for skills development and exposure to the sport, the fall version has a lot more game play," she said. "We want kids to just play for fun and for the love of the sport."

The basketball house league has 30 kids registered, which is the cap. The kids will be split into four teams, and the eight-week program will have each session split between drills and a game on the local high school courts. "We have some amazing community volunteers who help," said Waito, "including high school athletes who come out to coach. There are some great leadership opportunities"

While the fall sessions are full, Waito encourages anyone with a kid interested in basketball to look into the upcoming spring sessions by visiting haliburtonbasketball.com. "Haliburton can support so many programs," said Waito. "We just have to show up to do it."

The Jr. NBA league played around Haliiburton County, and offered the opportunity for kids of all ages to get involved in basketball. /submitted

# Local businesses support Run for the Cure

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

Canadian Cancer Society
CIBC
CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE
Rexall
$50 BURRITO GUYS GIFT CARD, GUESS GIRL GIFT SET AND PURPLE PLUSHY DONATED BY NEEDFUL THINGS
MEGA MUNCH
A number of the raffle prizes available at the Haliburton CIBC. Staff encourage everyone to come in to participate in the local fundraiser. / EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

Some may have noticed the local CIBC donning dashes of pink these days.

That's because the Haliburton branch has committed to fundraising for the annual Run for the Cure; a dedicated initiative across the country.

"This is our first time doing an in-person raffle since before Covid," said Tiffany Beemer, a client service representative of CIBC, and the local organizer behind the cause. "One hundred per cent goes directly towards Run for the Cure."

The raffle is linked to an annual run, which takes place in October each year. Last year, over 46,000 participated in the run across the country, with over $507 million raised for breast cancer research since 1992. With one in eight women diagnosed with breast cancer at some stage in their lives, Beemer believes the cause is highly important.

"My grandmother was diagnosed with breast cancer last year," she shared. "And she's doing well now, but it's still scary. It definitely hits a little harder now. So that's my reason. She's my reason."

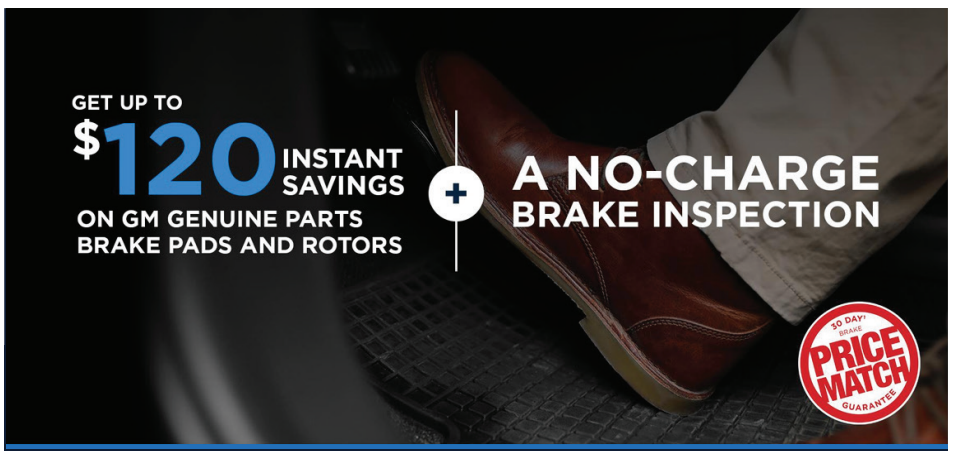
On top of the local raffle, Beemer also intends to run in October for the cause. There are several runs happening nearby, including Peterborough and Oro-Medonte.

To support the cause locally, Beemer went to individual businesses around Haliburton, seeking donations for the raffle prizes. "Everyone was great," she said. "They all wanted to get involved." Beemer and the CIBC staff organized the raffle prizes, and decorated the downtown building to encourage visitors to come in. "You don't need to bank with CIBC to enter the raffles," said Beemer. Raffle tickets start at two dollars, and the opportunity to drop tickets into any desired prizes. The draw takes place Oct. 3. "All we need is a name and phone number," said Beemer.

The following businesses donated prizes for the raffle:

*Foodland (signed Blue Jays picture), Up River trading Co. (canvas signs), RPM (airhead rebel tube), Outdoors Plus (knife set + hat), Mega Munch ($50 gift card), Burrito Guys ($50 gift card), Lockside (vase), SIRCH ($25 bistro card), Home Hardware (two Yetis), Rexall (perfume), Jug City (CN Tower décor x3), Handmade Hookers Crochet (Handmade desk plant, octopus, chill pill), Castle Antiques (Gift basket and gift card), Poquito Loco ($60 gift card), Maple Avenue ($50 gift card), Beer Store (branded merch), Canoe FM (gift basket/sweater/mug), Kozy Korner (gift set/book/mugs/hat/$25 gift card), Country Pickins ($25 gift card x2), Curry Motors (full oil change), A&W ($25 gift card and mug), Independent ($50), Glecoffs (tumbler), Juna ($50 gift card), Shoppers Drug Mart (beauty basket), Tim Hortons (Tumblers x3, coffee, reusable cups), Blush Hair Salon (hair care products), Subway (free platter), Mckecks (Sweaters x2), Needful things (stuffed animal and gifts).*

HALIBURTON COUNTY FOLK SOCIETY
presents
SANDRA BOUZA
AND HER BAND FOR A NIGHT OF STORIES, ROOTS & SOUL
w/ local support LIZZY CLARKE
SEP 27 , 2025 • 7:30PM • HALIBURTON, ON
PINESTONE RESORT
tickets at www.haliburtonfolk.com
Canadian Heritage
Haliburton County Folk Society
co-operative




Offer valid September 12th to November 30th, 2025

Offer valid on brake part (pads/shoes/rotors/drums) price only; cost of installation/labour not included in price.

Certified Service

SERVICE YOUR VEHICLE DESERVES

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# Cultural Centre to host film for Truth and Reconciliation

THOMAS SMITH

*Journalist*

On Thursday, Sept. 25, *Angry Inuk* will be screened at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

"Over the past two years, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre has marked the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by screening documentaries about residential schools and their lasting impact on Indigenous peoples and Canadian society," said Robert Wong, Cultural program coordinator.

"This screening connects to Truth and Reconciliation by encouraging greater understanding of Inuit voices, experiences, and ongoing struggles for cultural recognition, which are often overlooked or missing," said Wong. "We hope this screening inspires the audience to listen more deeply and to confront biases surrounding the ongoing struggles for Indigenous rights and recognition."

*Angry Inuk* is a documentary by Alethea Arnaquq-Baril. The film follows Arnaquq-Baril, explaining the history and culture of seal hunting in Canada. With the majority of seal hunters being Inuit, the film shows how animal rights protest groups whitewash their history. The film also follows a group of Inuit who travel to Europe to speak against the EU ban on seal products. One of the speakers against the ban of trading seal skins is Aaju Peter. An Inuit activist, lawyer, and clothing designer, Peter gave a presentation titled "Our True North Strong – Living and Travelling in the Canadian Arctic" alongside Barbara Kraus in November 2024 for the Telling our Stories Speaker Series at the Fish Hatchery in Haliburton.

"I wanted to make this feel because it bothered me when I saw animal welfare groups portray seal hunting as an evil and greedy thing," said Arnaquq-Baril in *Angry Inuk*. "The images and statements they put out don't reflect the seal hunting I know. They don't even mention Inuit."

In the film, Arnaquq-Baril says that the efforts of animal welfare to shut down the seal skin trade means a lower price for seal pelts, resulting in less money for Inuit hunters to support their families.

"We need to remind the world we exist. It is difficult to get our message heard because anti-sealing protests tend to be loud and confrontational whereas Inuit anger is much quieter," said Arnaquq-Baril.

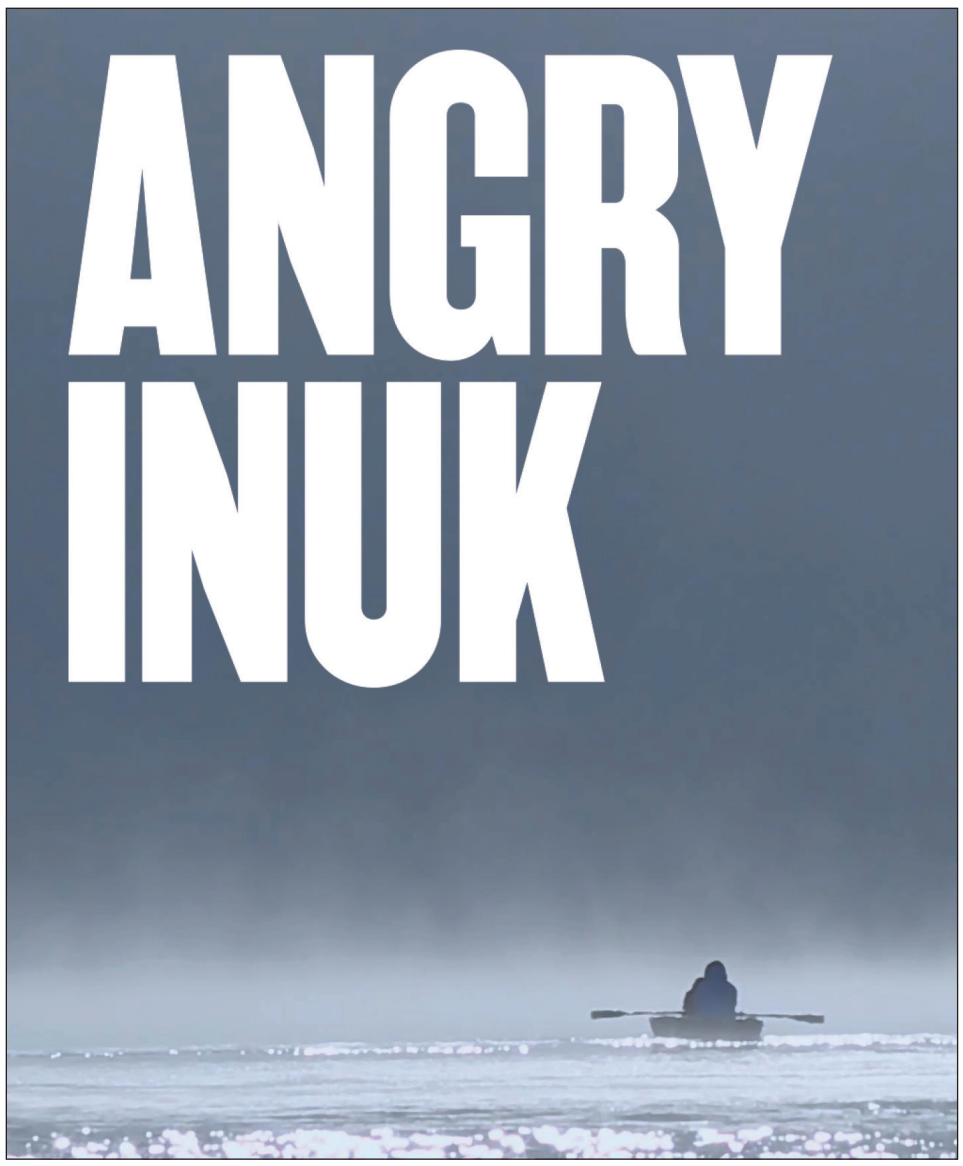
When seals are hunted, the meat is often shared with the community. The seal skins are sold to earn an income. In addition to seal fur being a sustainable economic source and source of food, natural seal skin helps hunters stay afloat if they fall through the ice.

With climate change, that is more important than ever before.

"This allows us to continue our traditions and take part in the modern world," said Arnaquq-Baril.

*Angry Inuk* will be playing at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sept. 25. The event is free and all ages are welcome to attend the screenings.

*Angry Inuk* is part of four film screenings with films supplied by the National Film Board of Canada. The other films that will be screened include *A Return to Memory, Rosies of the North*, and *Sons*. *A Return to Memory* will be shown on Oct. 9 at 1 p.m., *Rosies of the North* will be screened on Nov. 6 at 1 p.m., and *Sons* will be shown on Dec. 4 at 1 p.m.




IF YOU ARE NOT LISTENING TO CANOE FM ...

We want to know why

Canoe FM is your community radio station, and we're running a short survey to learn how we can serve our community better. Even if you don't listen to us, your feedback is just as important— we want to hear why.

Take a few minutes to share your thoughts and you'll be entered to
WIN A $250 GIFT CARD TO A LOCAL BUSINESS OF YOUR CHOICE.

Complete the survey at
www.canoefm.com/2025-listener-survey
or Scan the QR Code below

CANOE 100.9 & 97.1 FM
www.CanoeFM.com

Scan me for survey

Thank you for supporting Canoe FM - your community radio station. Your voice helps shape the future of community radio in Haliburton County.

## Books and bites

The Arts Council of Haliburton Highlands partnered with Blue Heron Books this past weekend to offer a lively interview with authors Kate Hilton and Elizabeth Renzetti, who co-write the cozy mystery series, Quill and Packet Mysteries.

Held at the Dominion Hotel in Minden, the authors navigated questions by our own editor, Emily Stonehouse. With the books revolving around mysteries in small towns and crimes solved by the local media, there was no shortage of dialogue amongst the speakers.

The event was held as a fundraiser for the Arts Council, with the authors staying to sign copies of their books following the interview. The two books in the series, *Bury the Lead* and *Widows and Orphans* are available at book stores across the country.

/ADAM FRISK staff

Save The Date!

Thursday September 18th

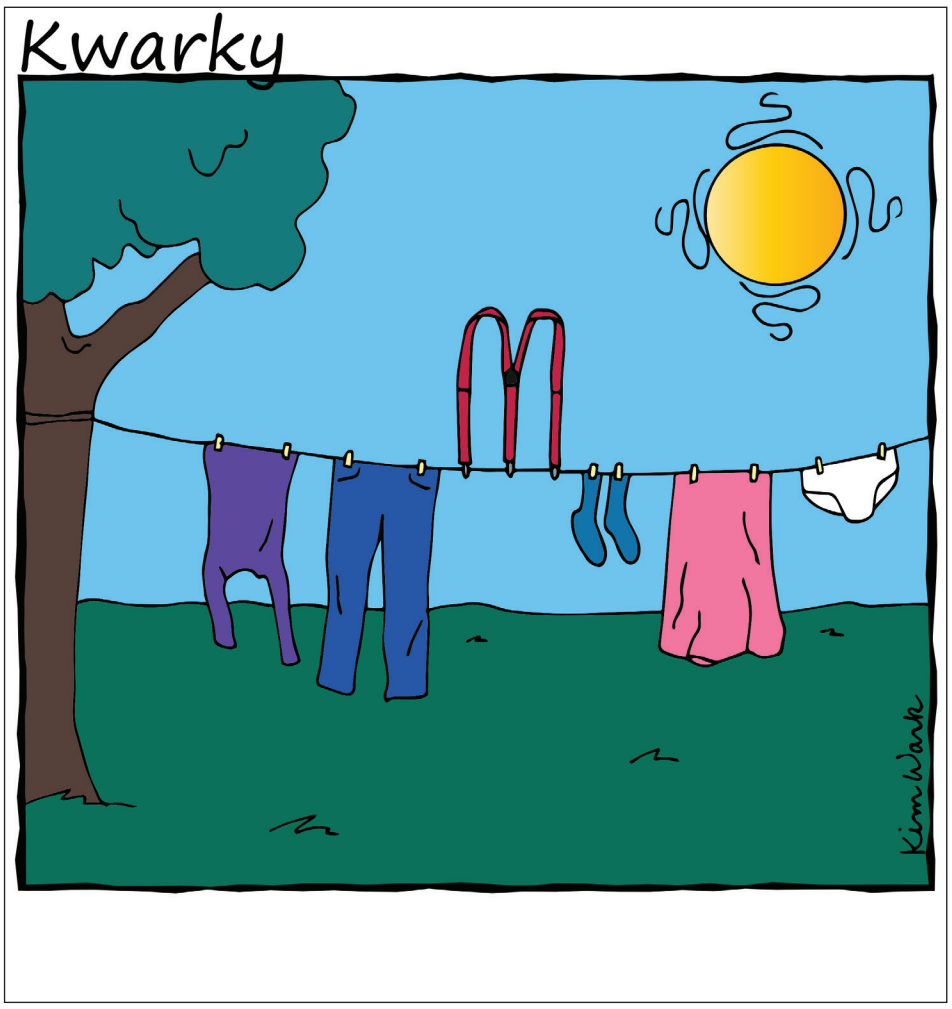
TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 2025

"Rage & Resistance"

Canadian Tire (92 Water Street, Minden) from 5pm - 7pm

Funded and brought to you by:

Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre
EFRY PTBO
Peterborough Domestic Abuse Network
PARN
YWCA Peterborough Haliburton
dgp
Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough




*Brought to you by*

# SUDOKU

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| | | 4 | | 6 | | 8 | | |

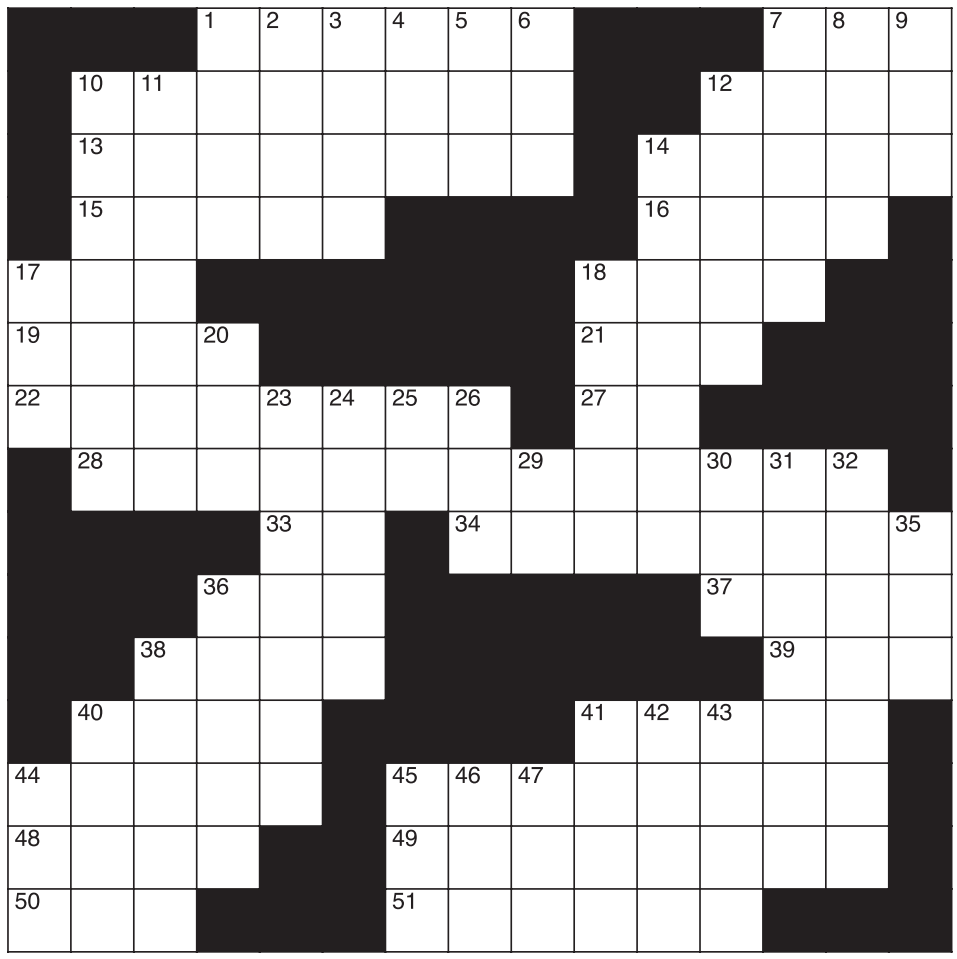
Level: Intermediate

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

*Answers on page 19*



CLUES ACROSS
1. Carved into
7. __ Rogers, cowboy
10. Unruly locale
12. Edible mushroom
13. Influential noblemen
14. Rattling breaths
15. David __ George, Brit. P.M.
16. Musician Clapton
17. Small Eurasian deer
18. Invests in little enterprises
19. Perimeter
21. Chicago ballplayer
22. Animal body part
27. It's everywhere these days
28. Fictional ad exec
33. Mr. T character Baracus
34. Against the current
36. Subway rodent
37. Armor plate
38. Hair on the head
39. Strong insect
40. Swollen lymph node
41. A way to lessen
44. Walter White poison
45. Sleeveless garment
48. Long accompanied song
49. Without features
50. Yankee great Mattingly
51. Removes from record

CLUES DOWN
1. Root of taro plant
2. Those ones
3. Appliances have one
4. A way to sing
5. Midway between east and southeast
6. Animal dwelling
7. An object that as survived from the past
8. Oil cartel
9. Affirmative
10. Foul smell
11. Brisk tempo
12. S. American indigenous person
14. Restored
17. Official
18. Skin lesions
20. Electroencephalograph
23. Middle Eastern country
24. Extremely angry
25. Title used before a woman's name
26. British thermal unit
29. By the way (abbr.)
30. Anger
31. Nullifies
32. Ones who acquire
35. Time zone
36. Arabic name
38. Protein in mucus
40. Ballpoint pen
41. Mimics
42. Humans have a lot of it
43. Expressions of good wishes
44. Cool!
45. One point east of due south
46. City of Angels football team (abbr.)
47. A way to save for retirement

*Answers on page 19*

# Stars and Strype

*Local singer celebrates 20 years of national anthems*

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

It's been an adventure along the way, but Jennifer Strype has always stood out in a crowd.

Even a crowd of 42,000 people.

The Boshkung Lake local recently celebrated her 20th season of singing the national anthem for home-field Blue Jays games. She has also belted out *Oh Canada* for the Toronto Maple Leafs, the Toronto Football Club, and the Toronto Raptors games, to name a few. "Any team that's played in Toronto, I've sung for them," laughed Strype.

But Haliburton has always been home. "My parents bought a cottage up here when my mom was pregnant with me," she shared over coffee on a rainy Thursday afternoon. She reflected on her years of coming up here as a child, when the entirety of Boshkung would gather. Including the family of her future husband. "There are home videos of us together as kids," she giggled. "So of course we came back here."

While she grew up in Toronto and spent summers in the Haliburton Highlands, the COVID-19 pandemic allowed her to move to the place her heart felt full, and make it home at last. With a regular job in sales and logistics, Strype carries on her passion for theatre full-time.

She attended school for singing, acting, and dancing, but left the program to join forces with her brother, and form a rock band. Strype would lead with vocals, with her brother taking on the majority of song-writing. They became well-known across the country, playing gigs in various locations around cities, and recording music for *Dawson's Creek* and *Joan or Arcadia*.

As the only woman of the band, Strype stood out, and stepped up to take on managerial components of the rock group. But while she loved the opportunity to sing for a crowd, the pressure of performing eventually got her down. "It wears on you," she said. "We both needed to step away for a bit. We needed a break from music."

She continued on her journey of following her passion for musical theatre and song, but noted that she struggled with auditions along the way. "Auditions are hard," Strype laughed. "I think I perform well, but I am not sure if I audition well."

But then came her big break. An opportunity to record a song for the Blue Jays anthem. "And they picked me," she said with pride.

That was 20 years ago. Nowadays, Strype performs for 10 to 12 games a season, generally twice a month. She noted that one of the best parts about growing with an organization is seeing how it shifts and evolves over the years. "There are so many women in high positions now within that organization," she said. "And that's the coolest thing to see. That was never the case before."

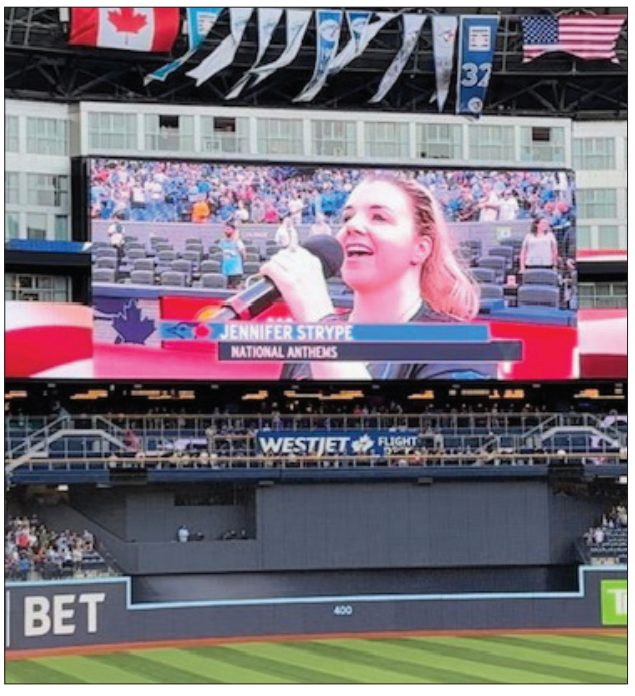
As a numbers person, Strype was interested in seeing how many individuals she has performed in front of during her 20 year career of anthems in the city. In total, she predicts it to be upwards of 5.6 million people. "I used to get nervous, for sure," she said. "But 287 games later, now it's just the norm for me."

Haliburton Highlands local Jennifer Strype sings the national anthem for the Toronto Blue Jays, and has sung for a variety of other Toronto-based sports games. /submitted

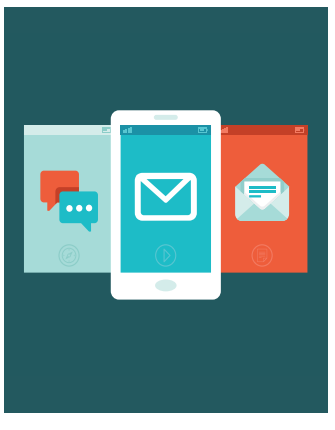
This season, with the Blue Jays playing well, over 42,000 viewers have been in the crowd. When asked how she prepares to sing in front of such an enormous audience, Strype laughed. "I do so much prep for two minutes and fifty seconds of singing," she said, noting that she gives herself a few hours to hydrate, apply makeup, and practice singing drills.

But it keeps her flame for performing burning bright. "Hearing that crowd, picking up on their energy, it just ignites your soul," Strype shared with a passion.

While she still travels to the city for big games, Strype is happily settled in the Haliburton Highlands, returning to her roots on Boshkung Lake. She has recently joined the board for the Highlands Summer Festival, and is eager to find ways to apply her skill-set and experience to the organization. "I want to move it forward," she said. "It's so great, and I've always loved theatre, always loved musical theatre. I am excited to see what we can do."



Strype is celebrating 20 years as the singer for the Toronto Bluy Jays home games. /submitted



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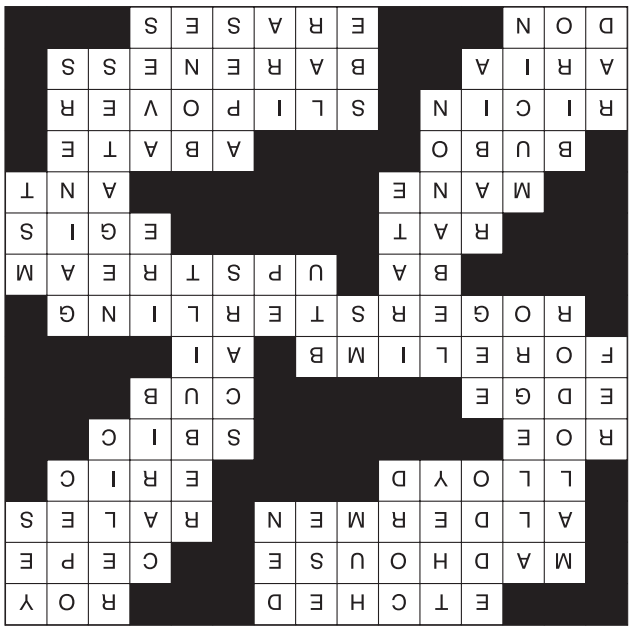

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**THANKS TO** ST. JUDE AND THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS for favours received. May the sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day for 9 days. This prayer has never failed, and your prayers will be answered. Publication must be promised. C.C.

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**2.Nathan's Rural Farm Project**
2 hours per week - duties include: help grow hydroponic produce, help harvest greens.

Thrift Warehouse in Haliburton is a social purpose thrift store managed by SIRCH Community Services.

Nathan's Rural Farm Project is an opportunity to increase fresh produce in the winter months through the use of 13 hydroponic towers at the SIRCH Bistro & Bakery.

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Please drop in or call SIRCH and ask for a Volunteer Package.

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A copy of the detailed job posting, and description are available upon request or on the Highlands East website at www.highlandseast.ca

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications **clearly marked "Application – Temporary, General Equipment Operator"** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Monday, September 22nd, 2025, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0
E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. Questions about this collection should be directed to Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer.

## FUNERAL SERVICES

*In Loving Memory of*

### Clarke, SM Lee

*September 16, 1937 – September 4, 2025*

The family of Lee Clarke shares his passing on September 4, 2025, with deep love and gratitude for his long and full life. Born on September 16, 1937, to Kay (Bredin) and Glen Clarke, Lee grew up in Lindsay, ON, where he was a high school cadet before attending Royal Roads Military College in Victoria, BC. He later worked in construction and at the Levack mines before following his true calling in education. Lee graduated from Peterborough Teachers' College in 1963 and began teaching with Pickering School Area #2. In 1964, Lee married Pat (Francis), and together they raised two children, Glen (1965) and Kathleen (1969). The family settled in Wilberforce, Ontario, where Lee dedicated three decades to teaching with the Haliburton County School Board until his retirement in 1995. Never one to sit still, Lee founded TMIAC Boats, where he built and repaired canoes and joined the Wooden Canoe Builder's Guild. His craftsmanship reflected his lifelong love of the outdoors. Lee had many passions, including music, especially playing guitar, as well as sports such as karting, car racing, and skiing. Above all, he was proud of his family and loved time with his grandchildren, Nicole and Owen. Lee is survived by his loving wife Pat, his children Glen and Kathleen, his grandchildren Nicole and Owen, his brother, Jed Bowen of British Columbia, and a large extended family of nieces, nephews, and cousins. The family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the staff at Winchester Hospital and Southbridge Kemptville for their excellent care and compassion. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada in Lee's memory. Lee will be remembered for his kindness, creativity, and the adventurous spirit he carried throughout his life. Celebration of Life for Lee will be held on October 11, 2025, at the Lloyd Watson Community Center in Wilberforce from 1:30-4:00.

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## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

### CELEBRATION OF LIFE

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## OBITUARIES

### Mary Pearson

(Formerly of Carnarvon, Ontario)

We announce the passing of Mary Pearson on February 13, 2025, in her 98th year. She was the loving mother of daughter Jane and son John. Mary was predeceased by her beloved husband, Thomas Pearson, and her four older siblings: James, Cecil, Walter, and Ethel. She spent most of her retirement years happily in Haliburton, residing in the town of Carnarvon. Mary enjoyed an active lifestyle, with one of her favourite pastimes being bid euchre on Friday evenings at Club 35. She was also a devoted member of St. Peter's Anglican Church, where she made many dear friends. Mary loved baking and knitting, and she often invited friends over for dinner — evenings that usually ended with a game of cards. After moving to an assisted living home and later a long-term care home in Toronto, Mary continued to display her kind and gentle nature. She was greatly loved by the staff and those who cared for her.

**Graveside Service**

A Graveside Service will take place on Saturday morning, September 20, 2025 at St. Peter's Anglican Church Cemetery, Maple Lake at 11:45 a.m. All are welcome to attend. A reception will follow in the Church Hall. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME,** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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*In Loving Memory of*

### James L. Hicks (Jim)

*Jim passed away peacefully of natural causes on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at the age of 95, with family on the shore of Lake Boshkung.*

Jim was the beloved husband of Mary (deceased) and father of five children; Bill (Kathy), Bruce (Cheri, deceased), Brad (Karen), Cindy (Ron, deceased) and Barry (Derrick). Jim's first wife, Carolyn (deceased), was the mother of their five children.

With his extended family; Debbie (Shea), Denise (Bill) and Beth (Dave), Jim was the proud grandfather of 22 grandchildren: Brittany (Taylor), Brett (Rachel), Spencer , Gavin (Dani), Brady (Rachel), Rob (Brittney), Ben (Victoria), Ali, Brigitta, Charlene (Nick), Christa (Eric), Emma (Mark), Chris, Emily (Chris), Katie, Kristen (David), Brenden, Ryan, Jason (Lou), Sean, Heather (deceased), Todd, and 12 Great Grandchildren: Rome, Naia, Aila, James, Heidi, Liam, Addison, Owen, Rachel , Wylie, Barrett and Millie. Jim's brother Frank, (Joanne, both deceased), and sister Barb (deceased) (Bill) and all of their offspring add many more to the extended family.

Jim was born and raised in Buffalo, NY and after serving two years in the US Army during the Korean war, he moved to Toronto where he engaged in teacher training and spent 33 years in that profession—the last 25 as an elementary Principal in Peel County. After retiring in 1986, he and his wife Mary moved to Haliburton County, where he worked construction for Jim Howe, drove a school bus, worked for Kinark and then served for 15 years on the Councils of Stanhope Township and Algonquin Highlands Township.

Jim first came to Haliburton in 1936 as a camper at Camp Calumet on Boshkung Lake. He spent 26 summers there, missing only two, during the Korean War. He loved everything about Haliburton, including that his children and some of his grandchildren and great grandchildren are now residents of the County. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially at family dinners and their lakeside saunas.

During his long and happy retirement, Jim also served on the Board of Staanworth Non-profit Housing, the Minden Community Food Centre, Zion Church and the Highland Hills Charge of the United Church. For a few years Jim and Mary enjoyed their winters in Florida. In later years he enjoyed the many activities provided by the HHHS at Hyland Crest and at Staanworth Terrace where he lived for 7 years.

Jim left his body to the University of Toronto for medical research. Jim's wish was that no formal service be held. At a later date, a gathering will be held for those who wish to remember Jim.

In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested for: Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF), The Minden Community Food Centre, or to Highland Hills United Church and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

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The Times

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Monday, September 10, 2001 Number 2009

Doug Johnson Broker Countrywide

GOING WITH THE FLOW: The Minden Wild Water Preserve was alive with activity this past weekend as paddlers converged on Minden for the annual Open Canoe Championships. This participant was caught on film Friday afternoon practicing his technique through the slalom course. Competitors spent Friday and Saturday getting a feel for the course, with the racing held all day Sunday. For more information and another photo, see page 9.

# 9-1-1 process moving ahead

by Jerry Grozelle

Preliminary mapping for 9-1-1 in Haliburton County has been completed. That was part of Stephen Foster's report at the August meeting of Haliburton County Council. Foster noted that there are some changes to be made and the final road naming has yet to be completed.

Foster suggested that each township form a road naming committee, which would review the names and report back to council.

The county has 101 property owners' associations and Foster's assistants had contacted 90 of those associations as of late August. "Things aren't going as smoothly as we had hoped regarding contact with the lake associations," he said. "But we have come a long way."

Foster expressed the concern about roads that are named after a resident. He said there could be conflicts which could result in delays in the process.

"There will be conflicts," he said. "That's part of the reason for forming road naming committees."

Foster admits that the process is not

*(more on page 15)*

ENTHUSIASTIC PERFORMANCE: The final Music by the Gull conert was held August 31 on South Water Street in Minden. The Gentlemen of Song, under the direction of Marg Jeske, were featured, along with Womyn Out Loud, an all female choral group from Haliburton. As the photos above demonstrate, Marg, with accompanist Elsie Lewis, is an enthusiastic conductor who works hard to encourage the all male chorus. At several points in the performance, the director invited the audience to sing along with the group. Music by the Gull was organized by Lori Reddering and Glenn Carter, with the help of volunteers and financial support from the Minden Lions Club

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**Kawartha Lakes** — $1,479,000 — 3 / 3 — MLS X12182250

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**Kennisis Lake** — $949,500 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12273143

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**Canning Lake** — $924,900 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12146750

**Long Lake** — $899,990 — 2 / 6 — MLS X12176356

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**Kennisis Lake** — $815,000 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12176356

**Kennisis Lake** — $874,900 — 2 / 3 — MLS X12169805

**Beech Lake** — $799,900 — 2 / 2 — MLS X12250094

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**Minden Hills** — $749,000 — 3 / 3 — MLS X12398280

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